

Fiscal impact reports (FIRs) are prepared by the Legislative Finance Committee (LFC) for standing finance committees of the NM Legislature. The LFC does not assume responsibility for the accuracy of these reports if they are used for other purposes.

Current FIRs (in HTML & Adobe PDF formats) are available on the NM Legislative Website (legis.state.nm.us). Adobe PDF versions include all attachments, whereas HTML versions may not. Previously issued FIRs and attachments may be obtained from the LFC in Suite 101 of the State Capitol Building North.

## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Grubestic DATE TYPED 1/24/05 HB \_\_\_\_\_

SHORT TITLE Revise Arson Statutes SB 229

ANALYST Wilson

### APPROPRIATION

| Appropriation Contained |      | Estimated Additional Impact |               | Recurring<br>or Non-Rec | Fund<br>Affected |
|-------------------------|------|-----------------------------|---------------|-------------------------|------------------|
| FY05                    | FY06 | FY05                        | FY06          |                         |                  |
|                         |      |                             | See Narrative |                         |                  |

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Revenue Decreases)

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

#### Responses Received From

Administrative Office of the District Attorneys (AODA)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 229 changes the definition of *arson*, *negligent arson* and *aggravated arson*. It also modifies the penalties for committing arson, negligent arson and aggravated arson.

#### Significant Issues

The AODA questions whether the crime of arson should be tied to the dollar amount of damage to the property.

### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The fiscal implications are not determinable at this time. However as various laws have been passed either creating new offenses or enhancing penalties, the District Attorneys (DAs) caseloads have increased.

The AODA claims they have had minimal budget and FTE increases to deal adequately with the increasing workload.

**ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

This bill enhances penalties and changes the definitions of current crimes. The AODA believes there will be more cases referred to them for prosecution although the exact number of cases cannot be determined.

**DW/lg**